

BOROUGH OF HARTLEPOOL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR THE YEAR 1920,

BY

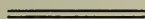
GEORGE JUBB, M.D., D.P.H.,

OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE, BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

Hartlepool :

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CONTENTS.



	PAGE
Statistical Memoranda	3
Natural and Social Conditions	5-6-7
Sanitary Circumstances	8-9-10-11
Food .. ...	...11-12-13-14
Prevalence and Control over Infectious Diseases	14-15-16
Maternity and Child Welfare	16-17
Sanitary Administration	18-19
Housing	20-21
Appendices	23-24

STATISTICAL MEMORANDA FOR 1920.



Area of Borough	...	...	924 acres
Census Population, 1911	...	...	20,618
Estimated Population, 1920	...	...	20,327
Number of Births	...	...	730
Birth Rate	...	...	35.9 per 1000
Number of Deaths	...	...	327
Death Rate	...	...	16.0 per 1000
Number of Deaths below 1 year	...	...	87
Infantile Mortality Rate	...	...	119 per 1000 births
Number of Deaths below 1 month	...	...	31
Neonatal Mortality Rate	...	...	42 per 1000 births
Zymotic Death Rate	...	...	0.93 per 1000
Small-pox	„	...	nil
Scarlet Fever	„	...	0.09 per 1000
Diphtheria	„	...	0.04 per 1000
Enteric Fever	„	...	nil
Measles	„	...	0.29 per 1000
Whooping Cough Death Rate	...	...	0.14 per 1000
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	9.5 per 1000 births
Phthisis Death Rate	...	...	0.83 per 1000
Influenza	„	...	0.78 per 1000
Acute Respiratory Diseases Death Rate	...	...	4.3 per 1000

Medical Officer of Health's Report, 1920.

Population.

The population of the Borough at the Census of 1911 was found to be 20,618. For 1920 the Registrar General estimates the civilian population at 20,327 for both the birth-rate and the death-rate. In a recent memorandum he states :—

“In 1920 demobilisation had reached a stage at which it is felt that the distinction between ‘birth-rate populations’ and ‘death-rate populations,’ made during the period when a large part of the male population was under arms, might in general be discontinued. For most districts, therefore, a single estimate of population is shown and this is applicable to both births and deaths.”

It is probable that, when the figures of the Census of 1921 are available, it will be found that the population is underestimated. With a return to normal conditions it is highly desirable that an enumeration of population should be made every five years at least, when the age and sex constitution of each town or district would be accurately known, and would be of great service in making deductions from the vital statistics of each year.

Births.

The number of births registered in 1920 was 730, being the largest number on record. There were 371 boys and 359 girls, the corresponding numbers last year being 285 and 302. The birth rate was the exceedingly high one of 35.9 per 1,000, compared with 28.8 in 1919. It was only to be expected that the low birth rates of the war years, and the return of millions of married service men to civil life, should be followed by a high birth rate throughout the country. The birth rate in England and Wales was 25.4 in 1920, the rate for the previous year being only 18.5. This high birth rate will almost certainly be followed by a corresponding drop in the birth rate of next year. The birth rate in Hartlepool in 1914 was 30.8, and in 1911 it was 30.1, considerably higher than the average of England and Wales. The birth rate in the County of Durham for 1920 was 30.0 per 1,000.

There were 33 illegitimate births registered, 4·5 per cent. of the total. The percentage in 1919 was 4·2, in 1918 4·2, and in 1917 4·0. There appears, therefore, to be a steady increase in the number of illegitimate births, probably also one of the after effects of the war.

Deaths.

327 deaths were registered, 165 males and 162 females, giving a death rate of 16·0 per 1,000, compared with 18·2 in 1919 and 27·6 in 1918.

The County death rate was 12·2 and the death rate for England and Wales 12·4.

There were 15 inquests, 4·5 per cent. of the total deaths. One inquest was on a child aged five years who had been murdered by strangulation. Drowning and burns accounted for two cases each. There was no case of suicide.

There was only one death uncertified, a child one month old. In a town like Hartlepool, with doctors and hospital within easy reach of all parts of the town, uncertified deaths ought to be unknown.

Infantile Mortality.

The deaths of children under one year of age numbered 87, 42 being males and 45 females. The infant death rate was therefore 119 per 1000 births. There were fewer deaths in 1919, the number being 78, but the largely increased birth rate during the present year had the effect of reducing the infant death rate.

Table showing Infant Mortality Rate for 5 years.

	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
Hartlepool	111	100	165	132	119
West Hartlepool	112	102	167	112	99
County of Durham	115	115	119	113	106
England and Wales	91	97	97	89	80

31 deaths (35 per cent. of the total number of deaths) were due to Congenital Debility and Prematurity. These are due to causes which operate before the child's birth, either disease of the child or the state of the mother's health. Of these deaths 19 were males and 12 females. It is evident, therefore that among newly

born children boys have a more precarious hold of life than girls have, and although more boys than girls are born, the steady wastage among the boys soon leaves a larger female population.

31 infants died before completing the first month of their short life, giving a neonatal death rate of 42 per 1000 births, exactly the same rate as last year. This rate, unfortunately, remains unaffected by all the measures directed so far successfully against the general infant mortality. I have no doubt that an increase in the number of maternity hospitals and homes, and a more extended use of these, would have, as one of the good results, a saving of many of these infants who, owing to wrong feeding, poor nursing, and insanitary homes, are unable to carry on the struggle for existence for more than a few days or weeks.

Out of an average of 600 births annually fully 100 take place amid surroundings which are inimical to infant life and health.

There ought, therefore, to be available in the nearest hospital at least ten maternity beds, with sufficient convalescent accommodation in addition. In time most mothers would be found to be willing to go to hospital on these occasions, away from the noise, worry, and troubles, of their own homes. The infant, during the most critical period, the first four weeks, would have skilled supervision day and night, difficulties in feeding would be easily overcome, and it would go home better prepared to put up a good fight for its existence.

12 illegitimate infants died, making the illegitimate infant mortality rate 363, as compared with the legitimate infant mortality rate of 107 per 1,000 births. The rate last year was 320 for illegitimate infants, and 124 per 1,000 births for legitimate children. Every year the figures tell the same story—the unwanted child has only one third of the legal child's chance of living for twelve months. There is no doubt in some of these cases the child is wilfully neglected, in others the neglect is due to ignorance, inexperience, and the necessity for the mother to earn her living.

The chief causes of death among the infants were Bronchitis and Broncho-Pneumonia (22), and Convulsions (9). These are often the result of irregular feeding, and the use of improper articles of diet. The practice of taking infants to cinemas and theatres is responsible for a great deal of illness, which, in too many cases, results in death.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

The water supply, drainage and sewerage, closet accommodation and scavenging, were fully dealt with in last year's report.

Sanitary Inspection of District.

Premises were visited by the Sanitary Inspector and various nuisances and defects discovered.

The following table gives a classified statement of the action taken and the results.

NUISANCE OR DEFECT				Abated or remedied after		TOTAL
				Informal Notice	Statutory Notice	
Nuisance from defective W.C.	...	...	...	72	5	77
" " Drains, Traps, &c.	...	...	...	42	2	44
" " Yard Pavements, &c.	...	...	...	15	—	15
" " Roofs, Gutters, &c.	...	...	...	70	5	75
" " Foul Conditions	...	...	...	15	—	15
" " Deposits of Refuse	...	...	...	7	2	9
" " Defective Water Supply	...	...	...	14	2	16
" " Overcrowding	...	...	...	2	1	3
" " Structural Defects	...	...	...	70	7	77
" " at Workshops	...	...	...	23	—	23
" " Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	7	—	7
" " Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	14	—	14
" Miscellaneous	...	...	...	28	—	28
TOTAL				379	24	403

Common Lodging Houses.

The three registered have been frequently visited during the year. Defects which were found in the Durham Street one have been attended to. All three lodging houses have been full during the year, the men being labourers employed at the new dock.

Offensive Trades.

During the year a tripe boiler was the only one engaged in an offensive trade.

Factories and Workshops.

1. Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories	2	1	—
Workshops	142	—	—
Workplaces	—	—	—
Total	144	1	—

2. Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

PARTICULARS.	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Refer'd to H.M. Insp'tor	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—				
Want of Cleanliness	18	18		
Want of Ventilation	—	—		
Overcrowding	—	—		
Want of Drainage of Floors	—	—		
Other Nuisances	5	4		
Sanitary Accommodation { Insufficient	1	—		
{ Unsuitable or Defective	1	1		
{ Not Separate for Sexes	—	—		
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts:—				
Illegal Occupation of Underground Bakehouses	—	—		
Breach of Special Sanitary Requirements for Bakehouses	—	—		
Other Offences	—	—		
	25	23		

3. Home Work.—none.

4. Registered Workshops.

Workshops on the Register at the end of the year.	Number
Bakehouses	6
Milliners	5
Dressmakers	4
Tailors	4
Plumbers	4
Joiners	5
Boot Repairers	5
Fish Curers	9
Others	4
TOTAL Number of Workshops on Register ...	46

5. Other Matters.

CLASS	Number
Matters Notified to H M. Inspector of Factories:—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act ...	—
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts but not under the Factory and Workshops Acts.	{ Notified by H.M. Inspector Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector
Other	
Underground Bakehouses in use at the end of the year ...	2

Schools.

The schools have been maintained in good sanitary condition. They were fully dealt with in last year's report and there has been no material change since.

Hart Road Infants' School was closed for three weeks on account of the prevalence of measles. Middleton Schools were closed for three weeks on account of scarlet fever. 232 children were excluded from school suffering from various infectious diseases, and 165, who had been in contact with infectious disease, were also excluded. 22 children were excluded from school as

they were suffering from some form of tuberculosis. 251 children were excluded from school for other health reasons. All these children are medically examined before re-admission to school, and the procedure appears to be of great value, as so far no case of infectious disease has occurred as a result of the return of a child, convalescent from infectious disease, to school.

FOOD.

Milk Supply.

19 samples of milk were taken. 2 samples of milk were slightly deficient in fat and non-fatty solids. 8 samples were below standard in non-fatty solids but contained an excess of fat.

The supply of milk is inadequate for the needs of the district and in consequence there is a large consumption of condensed milk and milk powder.

There are 25 registered milk sellers. 4 of these do not sell milk at present, and a number only sell a small quantity. Most of the milk sellers are small shopkeepers and their premises are unsuitable for the purpose of storing and distributing milk. They are visited frequently to ensure that the milk vessels are clean and that the milk is covered and protected from dust.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK AND CREAM) REGULATIONS, 1912 AND 1917.

Report for the year ended 31st December, 1920.

1. Milk; and Cream not sold as Preserved Cream.

	(a). Number of Samples examined for the pres- ence of a Preservative.	(b). Number in which Preservative was reported to be present, and Percentage of Preservative found in each Sample.
Milk	19	none
Cream	—	—

2. Cream sold as Preserved Cream.

- (a) Instances in which samples have been submitted for analysis to ascertain if the statements on the label as to preservatives were correct.

(i)	Correct Statements made	...	...	—
(ii)	Statements Incorrect	...	...	1
Total				1

(iii)	Percentage of Preservative found in each Sample...	Percentage stated on Statutory Label
	... '65	... '4

- (b) Determination made of milk fat in cream sold as preserved cream.

(i)	Above 35 per cent.	...	..	...	1
(ii)	Below 35 per cent.	...	...	...	—
Total					1

- (c) Instances where (apart from analysis) the requirements as to labelling or declaration of preserved cream in article V (1) and the proviso in article V (2) of the Regulations have not been observed.—none

- (d) Particulars of each case in which the Regulations have not been complied with, and the actions taken :—

The carton in which the sample was forwarded had printed on the exterior a declaration to the effect that the contents consisted of Preserved Cream containing Boric Acid not exceeding .4%. The sample contained Boric Acid in excess of the declared amount to the extent of .25%, or 62.5% of the amount of Boric Acid allowed.

An explanation was received from the wholesale dealer. The retailer stopped the sale of preserved cream.

3. Thickening Substances.—none.
4. Other Observations.—none.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order 1919.

Dried milk was supplied from the Infant Welfare Centre for expectant and nursing mothers and children under five years of age at cost price. In some cases of hardship the milk was supplied at half cost price, and free in a few necessitous cases. The use of dried milk is steadily growing, nearly 6,000 lbs. being issued during the year. No more was allowed in each case than the equivalent of the quantities laid down in the Order.

Meat.

The slaughter-houses have been visited frequently to ensure that they were maintained in good sanitary condition. 14 notices were issued regarding nuisances or defects which were attended to.

There is no public abattoir, and though the carcasses of animals which have been killed on the regular slaughtering day are inspected, it is difficult to overtake the inspection of meat where the animals are killed at odd times during the week. The provision of an abattoir is urgently required. It might, however, be possible to combine with other authorities for this purpose. An effort is being made to prevent the establishment of new private slaughter houses. There was one application during the year which was refused.

Slaughter-houses in use.

		In 1914	In January, 1920	In December, 1920
Registered	...	12	7	7
Licensed	...	11	8	8
Total		23	15	15

Other Food.

The unsound food dealt with included 304 lbs. of Beef, 90 lbs. of Frozen Meat, 614 lbs of Bacon and 25 lbs. of Cheese.

All places where food is prepared for sale are regularly visited. There are 6 bakehouses, 2 being underground, and all are maintained in fair sanitary condition.

Sale of Food and Drug Acts.

22 formal and 52 informal samples were taken. The articles sampled were the following :—

Milk 19, Butter 6, Cheese 5, Preserved Cream 1, Lard 13, Margarine 6, Flour 1, Egg Substitute 5, Baking Powder 6, Pepper 4, Cream of Tartar 3, Camphorated Oil 5.

2 samples of milk were slightly deficient in fat and non-fatty solids. 8 samples of milk were below standard in non-fatty solids, but contained an excess of fat.

The sample of preserved cream contained an excess of boric acid over the limit print on label, which stated that there was not more than 0.40 per cent. of boric acid present, whereas 0.65 per cent. was reported to be present. The wholesale dealer was communicated with and replied giving an explanation. All the cartons of cream were withdrawn from sale.

2 samples of cheese were reported by the analyst to be made of skimmed milk.

4 samples of margarine contained boric acid in varying proportions.

5 samples of baking powder and 4 samples of egg substitute contained small quantities of calcium sulphate.

In none of the foregoing cases was it considered advisable to take proceedings. The respective vendors were informed and cautioned.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Small-pox.

Fortunately no cases occurred during 1920. On two occasions information was received from port sanitary authorities regarding small-pox contacts on shipboard coming to the town. These persons were visited and found in good health.

Scarlet Fever.

113 cases were notified, as compared with 102 cases in 1919. Most of the cases were mild, 6 cases not being notified until they were peeling. 79 cases were removed to the Port Sanitary Hospital. There were 2 deaths giving a death-rate of 0.09 per 1000. The County death-rate was the same.

Diphtheria.

5 cases were notified, 2 of these being removed to Hospital. There was one death, giving a death-rate of 0.04 per 1000. The County death-rate was 0.16.

Measles.

119 cases of measles were notified by school teachers. There were 6 deaths compared with 2 deaths in 1919. The death-rate was 0.29 per 1000. The County death-rate was 0.20.

Erysipelas.

There were 4 cases, which were all successfully treated at home.

Influenza.

There were 16 deaths, 5 males and 11 females, with a death-rate of 0.78 per 1000, which compares favourably with 39 deaths and a death-rate of 1.9 per 1000 in 1919. The majority of the deaths occurred in the age period 25—45, and during the months of May and June. A few persons were inoculated with influenza vaccine with apparently good results.

Enteric Fever.

There were no cases of enteric fever. The last case was notified in 1917. The freedom the town enjoys from this disease is largely due to the fact that the town is entirely a water-closet one. Another factor is probably the small consumption of cow's milk.

Tuberculosis.

47 cases were notified, compared with 50 last year, 33 being cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 14 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis. 7 cases were dead when notified, and some other

cases were only notified a few days before death. It is evident that a case which runs its course without notification has never had a chance of sanatorium treatment, and that during the illness precautions have not been taken to prevent the spread of the disease. Early detection, early notification, and early treatment, (including open-air methods), are the most certain ways of preventing the spread of tuberculosis, and at the same time the most likely to be successful in obtaining permanent cures. The known cases at present in the town include 63 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 68 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

There were 17 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis, 5 being males and 12 females. The death rate was 0.83 per 1,000, the County death rate being 0.75. In 1919 the death rate was 1.4.

There were 8 deaths from other forms of tuberculosis.

Public Health Regulations, 1919.

17 cases of pneumonia and one case of malaria were notified. There were, however, 45 deaths from various forms of pneumonia, including broncho-pneumonia which is not notifiable.

Verminous Conditions.

There is no provision for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons and their belongings. As it is now proved that vermin are the carriers of some of the most deadly diseases, such as typhus and plague, the importance of providing a disinfection station is apparent. At the Corporation Destructor there is a large amount of steam going to waste which could be utilized for baths. I am sure that a cleansing station could be economically established in the vicinity of the Destructor.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Notification of Births Act, 1907.

During the year 773 notifications of births were received, the number in 1919 being only 609. 3 births were not notified. 23 (2.9%) of the notifications referred to still-births, 10 being boys and 13 girls. 86 notifications (11%) were sent in by the two midwives practising in the town.

Maternity and Infant Welfare Centre.

The centre was open on 47 occasions during the year. 284 infants attended, 227 being new cases and 57 old ones. The total attendances were 1,736, and 180 infants came oftener than twice. The daily average attendance was 37. The privilege of being able to purchase dried milk at cost price is a great attraction, and brings the large majority of the mothers.

The accommodation for the centre comprises only a single room at Baltic Street School, which is quite inadequate for the various demands put on it by the large numbers resorting to the centre. The sale of dried milk necessitates a separate room and a storeroom for about two months' supply of milk. There should also be a doctor's room, a weighing room, and a large waiting room. A specially designed and well-built centre with ample accommodation is urgently required, which could also be used as a School Clinic. It is not likely that alteration of existing buildings will prove a satisfactory solution of this problem. Given suitable premises there is little doubt the work of the centre would take on a new impetus. Classes could be started, and the mothers given the very necessary instruction in child care, sewing, and other domestic subjects.

The two Health Visitors paid 784 first visits to infants, and 761 second and subsequent visits. 150 visits were paid to children below 5 years of age, and 59 visits to expectant mothers. 61 sanitary defects were discovered by them in the course of these visits, were reported to the Health Office, and were remedied in due course.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

There were 8 cases, 10 per 1000 births, compared with 6 cases in 1919. 3 cases were of a very severe type and were removed to hospital for treatment. One case was removed to Howbeck Hospital, the local authority having agreed to defray all expenses, including the fee of an eye specialist. This child recovered without damage to its eyes. The other hospital cases were admitted to hospital when the disease was advanced and suffered permanent injury of both corneæ.

Epidemic Diarrhea.

There were 7 deaths from diarrhea among children below 2 years of age, the death-rate being 9.5 per 1000 births. In 1919 the death-rate was 8 per 1000 births.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

Staff.

The duties of sanitary inspection are carried out by one inspector (Mr. Joseph Charlton), who takes samples under the Food and Drugs Acts, visits common lodging houses, workshops, etc., and looks after housing conditions. He also acts as epidemic inspector, supervises the removal of patients to the Infectious Diseases Hospital, and disinfects where necessary.

During 1920 103 rooms were disinfected after various infectious diseases, and 81 patients were removed to hospital.

In accordance with Circular No. 120 of the Ministry of Health, dated 25th August, 1920, dealing with the sanitary condition of theatres, music halls, &c., Mr. Charlton has been deputed by the Sanitary Authority to visit all places of public entertainment, and to report both to the Authority and to the Licensing Authority any cases in which the conditions are found to be unsatisfactory. The Licensing Authority have resolved that, when considering an application for the grant or renewal of a license in respect of any theatre, music hall, or other place of public entertainment, they will require a certificate from the inspector of nuisances that the building is satisfactory in sanitary and other respects; and if they desire to grant or renew the license, they will attach such conditions to it as will ensure the building being maintained in a proper state.

There are 17 places of public entertainment, and they have all been thoroughly examined. Numerous serious defects have been found, some even dangerous, but they have all been brought to the notice of the Sanitary Authority, and of the licencees, and the necessary alterations are being made.

Action such as the foregoing has long been overdue, as it was apparent to most people that the conditions in many theatres, cinemas, &c. (which were springing up rapidly in all directions), were not such as would meet with the approval of sanitarious.

Other places of public resort such as public houses, railway stations, restaurants, and cafés, should without delay be placed under sanitary supervision, precisely as theatres now are, and I hope that the Ministry of Health will at an early date issue suitable regulations for this purpose.

Hospital Accommodation.

The Infectious Diseases Hospital is under the control of the Hartlepool Port Sanitary Authority and receives not only cases from ships in the harbour, but also cases from Hartlepool, West Hartlepool, and Hartlepool Rural District. The Hospital is old and out-of-date, and in any case is not large enough for the needs of the district. 79 cases of scarlet fever and 2 cases of diphtheria were sent to the hospital.

In 1919 an arrangement was made with the Borough of Stockton for cases of small-pox to be received in the Stockton Small-pox Hospital. Fortunately this year the town remained free from small-pox.

Local and Adopted Acts.

The Local Acts in force are the Borough Extension Acts, 1883-1897. The Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1907 was adopted in 1908. The notification of Births Act, 1907 was adopted in 1912.

Arrangements for Chemical and Bacteriological Work.

The chemical examination of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Acts has been carried out by the Borough Analyst, Mr. C. J. H. Stock, Darlington, who is also Analyst for the County of Durham. 74 samples were examined, of which 16 were below standard.

It was not considered necessary to take proceedings in any of the cases:

Bacteriological examinations are, by arrangement with Durham County Council, carried out at the College of Medicine, Newcastle. 28 specimens were sent, and the reports of the result of the examination showed that 8 were positive and 20 negative.

Disease,	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Tuberculosis	6	9	15
Diphtheria	2	10	12
Enteric Fever	—	1	1
	<hr/> 8	<hr/> 20	<hr/> 28

HOUSING.

General Housing Conditions.

From the survey of housing needs which was made in 1919 it was apparent that there was a great shortage of working-class houses, and that approximately 580 new houses would be required. To meet this shortage the Council framed a scheme whereby 160 new houses would be completed in 1921, and 418 houses would be provided in 1922. On 10th May, seven years after the inauguration of the Cleveland Street Improvement Scheme, the building of 33 houses was commenced in Cleveland Street and Durham Street, and on 4th June 28 houses were started in Hart Road. Building has progressed very slowly; there have been many delays due to the shortage of labour and material, and the close of the year came without a single house being near completion. It is evident that, at the present rate of progress, many years will elapse before all the new houses are provided.

The population of the borough appears to be stationary. There is no reason, at any rate, to expect any material increase, as the prosperity of the borough is largely dependent on ship-building, marine engineering, and coal export, all at present suffering from trade depression.

Overcrowding.

The extent of overcrowding can only be roughly estimated. It is probable that about 200 houses are overcrowded, but the evil grows every week. The cessation of building during the war, and the large increase in the number of marriages, appear to have been the principal causes, but there is no doubt that the shortage of working class houses had already made itself felt before the war.

It has not been possible to do anything to remedy bad cases of overcrowding, as there was no alternative accommodation. When the new houses are occupied it may then be possible to find room for some of the families, who are at present existing in one or two rooms.

Fitness of Houses.

The standard of housing in the district has always been a low one, no yards, no sinks, no baths, no larders, &c., being common defects. Many of the houses are old and dilapidated;

some are in courts, other in narrow streets. They were built in, and for, a generation when the necessity for air and light was not realized to the extent it is to-day. No doubt some of the present defects are due to the failure of owners to carry out timely repairs, as they were required and asked for. Some defects, on the other hand, are due to the shiftlessness and carelessness of the tenants, heedless of the comfort and health of their neighbours. Added to these there is always a great deal of wilful damage, which soon gives a ruinous appearance to slum property.

Unfit houses have been dealt with under the Public Health Acts, but repairs have been carried out very slowly. It has not been found possible to close many houses, as even a bad house is better than no house at all. Closing Orders were made in respect of 4 houses which were untenanted and ruinous, as the site was required for the building scheme, and in due course Demolition Orders followed. A representation was made with a view to the making of a Closing Order with respect to a dwelling-house, where the repairs required were so extensive, that they could not properly be carried out with the tenants in, but at the time no closing order was made, although it had to be done later.

APPENDICES.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

STATISTICS.

Year ended 31st December, 1920.

1.—GENERAL.

(1)	Estimated Population	...	...	20,327
(2)	General death-rate	...	...	16.0 per 1000
(3)	Death-rate from tuberculosis	...	...	1.2 per 1000
(4)	Infantile mortality	...	...	119 per 1000 births
(5)	Number of dwelling-houses of all classes	...	...	4554
(6)	Number of working-class houses	...	...	4404
(7)	Number of new working-class houses erected	...	...	none

2.—UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES.

I.—Inspection.

(1)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	481
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	...	...	41
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	5
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	231

II.—Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	207
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III.—Action under Statutory Powers.

A. *Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., 1919.*

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	none
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—			
	(a) by owners	...	...	—
	(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	—

- (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close —

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 24
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied—
- (a) by owners 23
- (b) by Local Authority in default of owners ... 1

C. Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.

- (1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders. 5
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made 4
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit... .. none
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 4
- (5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders none

3.—UNHEALTHY AREAS.

Areas represented to the Local Authority with a view to Improvement Schemes under (a), Part I., or Part II., of the Act of 1890 :—

- (1) Name of Area none
- (2) Acreage none
- (3) Number of working-class houses in area
- (4) Number of working-class persons to be displaced...

4.—Number of houses not complying with the building bye-laws erected with consent of Local Authority under section 25 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., 1919 none

5. Staff engaged on housing work with, briefly, the duties of each officer

The Sanitary Inspector (Mr. Joseph Charlton) is Inspector under the Housing Regulations, and carries out all the duties of inspection and serving informal notices.